

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A stent/graft composite device formed from a flat preformed planar strip and stent assembly comprising:

an elongate preformed non-textile planar strip of polymeric graft material having first and second opposed surfaces and a planar stent attached onto one of said opposed flat surfaces of said strip to form said flat strip assembly, said strip assembly being helically wound into a continuous tubular structure.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein successive helical windings creates an overlap defining a seam between an exterior surface of a first helical wind and a luminal surface of a subsequent helical wind.

3. The device of claim 1 wherein successive helical windings do not overlap.

4. The device of claim 1 further comprising a second elongate preformed planar strip of graft material, wherein said stent assembly is positioned between the two planar graft strips.

5. The device of claim 4 wherein said planar graft strips are laminated together to form said strip assembly.

6. The device of claim 1 wherein said polymeric graft material is selected from the group consisting of fluoropolymers, polyurethanes, silicones and mixtures thereof.

7. The device of claim 1 wherein said polymeric graft material comprises ePTFE.

8. The device of claim 1 wherein said tubular structure has a generally circular cross-section.

9. The device of claim 1 wherein said planar stent comprises a plurality of stent wires.

10. The device of claim 1 wherein said planar stent comprises plurality of linked stent wires.
11. The device of claim 1 wherein said planar stent is comprised of nitinol.
12. The device of claim 1 wherein said planar stent comprises at least one planar stent wire.
13. The device of claim 1 wherein said planar stent comprises at least one planar ribbon stent.